

First record of *Siphonops paulensis* Boettger, 1892 (Gymnophiona: Siphonopidae) in the state of Sergipe, northeastern Brazil

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Abstract: Siphonopidae is represented by 25 caecilians species in South America. In Brazil, *Siphonops paulensis* is found in the states of Maranhão, Rio Grande do Norte, Bahia, Tocantins, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Rio Grande do Sul, and in the Distrito Federal. Herein, we report the first record of *Siphonops paulensis* in the state of Sergipe, Brazil, Simão Dias municipality. This record significantly expands the distribution of the species in northeastern Brazil.

Key words: caecilians, Siphonopidae, geographic distribution, *Siphonops paulensis*, Simão Dias

Siphonopidae is represented by 25 species in South America, being widely distributed in the continent, occurring in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela (Dunn 1942; Taylor 1968; Lynch 1999; Frost 2014).

In Brazil, the genus *Siphonops* is represented by five species: *Siphonops annulatus* (Mikan, 1820); *Siphonops hardyi* Boulenger, 1888; *Siphonops insulanus* Ihering, 1911; *Siphonops leucoderus* Taylor, 1968; and, *Siphonops paulensis* Boettger, 1892. *Siphonops paulensis* Boettger, 1892 is found in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay (Taylor 1968; Aquino *et al.* 2004).

Siphonops paulensis was described from São Paulo municipality, state of São Paulo by Boettger (1892). Currently, it is registered in the states of Maranhão (Miranda *et al.* 2013), Rio Grande do Norte (Schmidt and Inger 1951), Tocantins (Valdujo *et al.* 2011), Goiás (Schwartz *et al.* 2003; Vaz-Silva *et al.* 2007; Cintra *et al.* 2009; Souza *et al.* 2002), Mato Grosso (Faria and Mott 2011), Mato Grosso do Sul (Dunn 1942; Silva-Júnior *et al.* 2009), Minas Gerais (Kokubum and Menin, 2001), São Paulo (Dunn 1942; Forlani *et al.* 2010), Rio de Janeiro (Sawaya 1937), Rio Grande do Sul (Braun and Braun 1980; Lema and Martins 2011), and in the Distrito Federal (Kokubum and Menin 2001). *Siphonops paulensis* is a subterranean species living in forest, savannahs, shrubland and grassland. It adapts well to anthropogenic disturbance, and has

even been found in urban gardens. It is oviparous with terrestrial eggs and direct development, and not dependent on water for breeding (Aquino *et al.* 2004). We present a distribution map (Figure 1) and data in Table 1 of the current known distribution of this species based on literature.

Herein, we report the first record of *Siphonops paulensis* (Figure 2) for the state of Sergipe, Brazil. The observation occurred on 28 February 2009. The casual encounter was made in municipality of Simão Dias (10°44'20" S, 037°48'36" W; 250 m above sea level) (Figure 1). The specimen of *Siphonops paulensis* (SVL: 340.02 mm) was collected in vicinities city, was fixed in 10% formalin and preserved in 70% alcohol, and deposited in the Herpetological Collection of the Universidade Federal de Sergipe (CHUFS - Voucher Coo378), São Cristóvão municipality, Sergipe state, Brazil.

The specimen was collected under the license permit

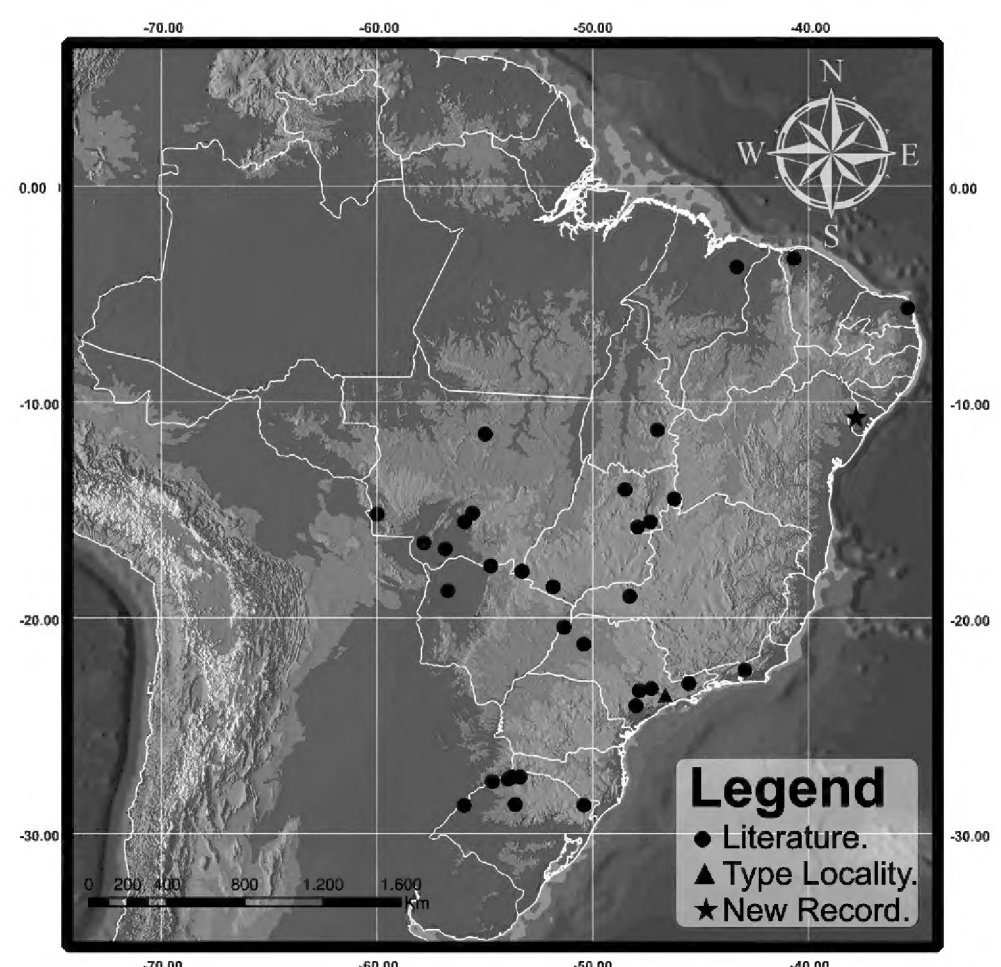


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of *Siphonops paulensis* in Brazil.

Table 1. Localities of the known distribution of *Siphonops paulensis* in Brazil.

State	Municipality	Latitude (S)	Longitude (W)	Reference
Ceará	Ibiapaba	03°20'00"	040°42'00"	Loebmann and Haddad (2010)
Distrito Federal	Brasília	15°46'47"	047°55'47"	Kokubum and Menin (2001)
Goiás	Formosa	15°32'14"	047°20'04"	Schwartz <i>et al.</i> (2003)
Goiás	Aporé	18°40'26"	051°52'50"	Vaz-Silva <i>et al.</i> (2007)
Goiás	Mambai	14°21'15"	046°11'40"	Cintra <i>et al.</i> (2009)
Goiás	Minaçu	14°00'30"	048°24'53"	Souza <i>et al.</i> (2002)
Maranhão	Chapadinha	03°44'41"	043°19'36"	Miranda <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Mato Grosso	Alto Taquari	17°49'40"	053°17'38"	Faria and Mott (2011)
Mato Grosso	Cáceres	16°30'59"	057°50'12"	Faria and Mott (2011)
Mato Grosso	Chapada dos Guimarães	15°06'25"	055°32'22"	Faria and Mott (2011)
Mato Grosso	Cláudia	11°26'46"	055°02'57"	Faria and Mott (2011)
Mato Grosso	Cuiabá	15°28'48"	055°53'21"	Faria and Mott (2011)
Mato Grosso	Poconé	16°47'04"	056°56'54"	Faria and Mott (2011)
Mato Grosso	Vila Bela da Santíssima Trindade	15°11'15"	059°58'58"	Faria and Mott (2011)
Mato Grosso do Sul	Sonora	17°34'47"	054°44'37"	Silva <i>et al.</i> (2009)
Mato Grosso do Sul	Corumbá	18°43'51"	056°43'23"	Dunn (1942)
Minas Gerais	Uberlândia	18°59'00"	048°18'00"	Kokubum and Menin (2001)
Rio de Janeiro	Teresópolis	22°24'44"	042°57'59"	Sawaya (1937)
Rio Grande do Norte	Ceará Mirim	05°38'07"	035°25'13"	Schmidt and Inger (1951)
Rio Grande do Sul	Frederico Westphalen	27°21'27"	053°23'40"	Lema and Martins (2011)
Rio Grande do Sul	Porto Mauá	27°34'12"	054°39'55"	Species Link
Rio Grande do Sul	Três Passos	27°27'31"	053°55'49"	Species Link
Rio Grande do Sul	Bom Jesus	28°40'09"	050°26'05"	Species Link
Rio Grande do Sul	Tenente Portela	27°22'15"	053°45'28"	Braun and Braun (1980)
Rio Grande do Sul	Cruz Alta	28°38'22"	053°36'22"	Braun and Braun (1980)
Rio Grande do Sul	São Borja	28°40'58"	055°58'39"	Braun and Braun (1980)
São Paulo	São Miguel Arcanjo	24°03'00"	047°56'00"	Forlani <i>et al.</i> (2010)
São Paulo	Itú	23°15'57"	047°17'57"	Species Link
São Paulo	Tatuí	23°21'00"	047°51'00"	Species Link
São Paulo	Taubaté	23°01'51"	045°32'54"	Dunn (1942)
São Paulo	Ilha Solteira	20°25'52"	051°20'17"	Species Link
São Paulo	Araçatuba	21°12'41"	050°25'34"	Species Link
São Paulo	São Paulo	23°32'51"	046°38'10"	Boettger (1892) <i>Type Locality</i>
Tocantins	Almas	11°16'00"	047°00'00"	Valdujo <i>et al.</i> (2011)
Sergipe	Simão Dias	10°44'20"	037°48'36"	New Record

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The specimen had their identification confirmed based on absence of splenial teeth, eye more or less distinct, in a socket, its orbits continuous with the tentacular groove, its distance from nostril more than three times as far as its distance from eye. The eyes are rather indistinct but visible as grayish-white spots. The head is short, the snout is oval, and body is plump and subcylindrical. Terminal part of body unsegmented, color slate, based on the description of Taylor (1968). The number of annuli following the collars is 114. According to Taylor (1968) *S. paulensis* presents variation of from 101 to 118 annuli. The nomenclature used in this study follows the taxonomy suggested by Segalla *et al.* (2013).

Our record extends the geographic distribution of *Siphonops paulensis* by about 1,700 km northeast of its type locality and 630 km from the nearest locality in municipality of Ceará Mirim, Rio Grande do Norte state (Schmidt and Inger 1951). The new record reported in this study fills a distributional gap of the poorly known *S. paulensis* in northeastern Brazil.

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Figure 2. *Siphonops paulensis* (C00378). Photo by Crizanto Brito De-Carvalho.

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